**Contemporary Issues**

*SPRING Semester -2013-*

-Mr. Ranweiler-

Room 205

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wikispace: ranweiler.wikispaces.com

***I am available***…before and after school, lunch by appointment.

My planning periods are \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_.

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# **RATIONALE:**

# Students in this Contemporary Issues class will acquire the knowledge and skills to gather, analyze and apply information and ideas. Student will also acquire the knowledge and skills to communicate effectively within and beyond the classroom. They will acquire the knowledge and skills to recognize and solve problems; and to make decisions and act as responsible members of society.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will cover the current issues in the World and the United States. Students will read articles in various magazines, newspapers and student publications. They will answer questions on these articles and use them as a basis for discussion. They will also view videos on news programs and evaluate them. While the students may not find answers, and certainly no easy answers, from the class, they should become more educated about these issues, and better able to confront the challenges they will face as they move forward in their lives.

# **It is a semester course – below are some samples of what we will be studying:**

U.S. Relationships Conspiracies Propaganda

Immigration Economics Energy sources/types

Government/Elections Freedom of Speech/Privacy

***Expectations:***

**WE**

**A**chieve-

**R**espect-

**E**ngage-

**SPARTANS!**

***Materials*:** bring your textbook to every class, binder/folder, notebook, pen, pencil, motivation, and curiosity.

***Grading*:** 100%-90%=A 89%-80%=B 79%-70%=C 69%-60%=D <60%=F

***Late work*:** Prearranged absences will be addressed on an individual basis. Assignments turned in up to 7 calendar days will have 25% taken off. Work turned in after 7 calendar days will not be accepted.

***Make-up work:*** It is YOUR responsibility to make up any work that has been missed. *Know the date(s) you were absent.* The wikispace will have the agenda/homework with the date and any handouts and worksheets that were assigned that day.

You have one day for every excused day absent to make up your work.

***Cell phones, etc.***

Be respectful of where you are.

Communication devices (cell phones, DVD players, PSPs, etc.) must be turned OFF during school hours or they will be CONFISCATED. However, the use of CD players, MP3 players, IPODS, IPADS, etc. are at the discretion of the teacher, but may be confiscated at any time.

*–BHS Student Handbook*

***Fire Drills:*** Please go left from the classroom entrance and down the stairs on the west side of the building. Exit the doors facing north, line up in the parking lot and look for me.

***WikiSpace Website:***

http://ranweiler.wikispaces.com/

* ***Here is where warmups, daily agendas, assignments and information about upcoming quizzes, tests and projects will be found.***